



# SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Board Report February 16, 2021 Sherry Becker, Superintendent

**Vision:** Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations.

**Mission:** Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals  
and adapt to an ever-changing world.

**Awards & Recognition:** (to be announced during School Board Meeting)

Student Awards/Recognition - Classified Employee of the Month  
Certified Employee of the Month - Parent/Volunteer Appreciation

### **Alaska Society for Technology in Education (ASTE) Annual Conference**

SISD Technology Director, Matt Gore serves on the ASTE Board and is also presenting at the GoGlobal ASTE conference this year. His presentation is titled "Computer System (An Experiential Approach)" and will take place on Saturday, February 13, 2021 @ 5pm.

#### **Description from the ASTE Conference Schedule:**

Computer Science is both theoretical and practical. Alaska has done an amazing job encouraging and supporting Computer Science education. A focus has been made on Coding as a way forward while sometimes overlooking the practical science of how a computer and its hardware works. Using E-Sports and experiential learning to create a hybrid experience of school tech assistant, gamer, and learner, we can create experiences that transcend the classroom and engage students. Building a mentality similar to the homebrew computer club from the days of Apple we can encourage the next generation to learn practical applications of Computer Science. Applying this philosophy, activities will be simulated with a structure used for success in the past for small schools. One idea iteration will be shown of how to embrace the more practical side of computing while generating enthusiasm and excitement for computing.

#### **Projected Enrollment for 2021-22 (to date):**

**AK-TRAILS:** 10-15

**Barry C. Stewart Kasaan School:** 21

**Hollis School:** 20

**Naukati School:** 15

**Port Alexander School:** 10-12

**Whale Pass School:** 19

**Howard Valentine Coffman Cove School:** 14

**Thorne Bay School:** 53

**Total District-Wide:** 162

### **Potential Staff Openings for 2021-22 (to date):**

The first round of Certified Teacher/Administrator Contracts have been issued. To date, the following positions are available and are being advertised for the 2021-22 school year:

- Barry C. Stewart Kasaan School: Multi-Grade Elementary General Education/Special Education Teacher
- Thorne Bay School: Elementary and/or Secondary Teacher
- District-Wide: Area Principal/Federal Programs/Grants Coordinator

### **Legislation**

School district funding from the CARES Act (the first relief act) doesn't need to be obligated until Sept. 30, 2022, and funding from the CRRSA Act (the second relief act) doesn't need to be obligated until Sept. 30, 2023. SISD has been awarded \$204,804. Applications for these funds come out on February 15, 2021. The SISD FY22 Budget Leadership Team will be discussing the most appropriate use of these funds.

More up to date legislation will be provided during the School Board meeting.

### **Port Alexander Magnet School 2021-22 (planning progress)**

Weekly meetings have been taking place between the City of Port Alexander Committee and SISD. Significant progress has been made on the plans for the Port Alexander Magnet School idea. Julia Trischman has accepted the Magnet School Extra Duty Contract and she has hit the ground running. Julia will be working with multiple agencies/organizations to plan out a great program for students. She is in the process of working closely with the Outer Coast Academy in Sitka and is closely reviewing and outlining the enrollment/eligibility process for student enrollment. She is working on the following: reviewing the Camps and Skills Clinics of Alaska; reviewing Room and Board forms/procedures for students; working with the committee to finalize the name of the magnet school, the vision, mission and goals, finalizing application requirements, planning with the Sitka Science Center, creating a flyer/presentation to recruit students, and fine tuning the curriculum.

### **AK-TRAILS Correspondence/Homeschool:**

A team of SISD staff are planning to meet over the next couple of months to develop a strategic plan for our Correspondence/Homeschool Program. We will be focusing on policy, procedures, curriculum and an advertisement campaign. More information on the team's progress will be announced as it becomes available.

### **Future Areas of Focus:**

- Professional Development - Analyzing the specific professional development needs of each staff member/group and developing quality and focused professional development opportunities for all
- District-Wide Student Awards/Recognition Program
- Improvements in the area of Student Leadership Opportunities
- District Communication Plan development and implementation with the following intent:
  - Implement a communications program that directly helps the district achieve its strategic goals.
  - Foster strong relationship with district stakeholders.
  - Provide focus and direction for messages/methods in support of the district's goals.
  - Enable the district to present itself accurately to internal and external audiences.